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B 515 K 515 effect by turning the lips saffron-red. This is more commonly used by townswomen than by their Badawin sisters.

DRESS FOR THE HAJ

K 788 292 B 788 292 Just as the man wears the *'ihrám*, a white loin cloth and white shoulder wrap when performing the pilgrimage, all Arab women must wear a special costume* when they enter the precincts of Mecca on pilgrimage. This consists of

(*a*) Green *sirwál* (pantaloons).
(*b*) Green *thaub* (muslin over-dress).
(*c*) Green *dishdásha* (frock).
(*d*) Black *'abba*.
(*e*) *Milfa* (veil).

K 765 When a woman, especially a townswoman, is in mourning she also wears green clothes.

HENNA AND ITS USES

B 302 K 302 The use of black henna (*saumar*) for the soles of the feet and hands, and red henna (*hinna*) for the tips of the fingers and toes is universal among *hadhar* townswomen. The Badawin girls use only red henna and then only to decorate their hands, finger nails and toe nails. They do not decorate the rest of their feet. Usually the henna is applied three times, so as to get the right shade. The henna is powdered and mixed with water till a fairly liquid paste is made. It is then applied very thickly and carefully, with a wooden stick, on the hands or feet in accordance with the pattern desired. It is then allowed to dry quickly in front of a fire until the paste cracks and falls or is picked off. This is done three times, or four if a very dark colour is required.

Some women prefer that the henna markings should be black, especially for the feet. To arrange this, another paste is made from powdered lime (*núra*) and powdered crystal ammonia (*shanada*) and is applied over the orange henna markings. At once the orange mark-

K 841 B 841 * If a woman has her period when she enters the sacred precinct of Mecca to perform the Haj, then her pilgrimage is null and void, as she is considered unclean. Several Arab ladies of Kuwait have enquired from the lady doctor when about to go on the Haj, if she could give them medicine to delay periods when due.

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Unmarked Graves

visit the grave of a dead relative once he has been buried. Even the shaikhs' graves suffer like neglect, and in the great cemetery between the Naif gate and the Jahrah gate inside the wall, few can point out the graves of Shaikhs Mubarak, Jabir and Salim, the last three Rulers of the principality. There is nothing at all to distinguish their tombs from those of any man and woman who has been buried in the same place. It is interesting to know that Shaikhs Muhammad and Jarrah, slain by Shaikh Mubarak, lie in the *Safát* or Market Square of Kuwait with nothing to indicate their burial place but a few stones flush with the ground.

The washing of dead bodies in Kuwait is carried out by a regular body-washer (*ghassál*), male or female as the case may be, who is immediately sent for on a death taking place. This person is very business-like and gets to work at once. Persian (Shi'ah) men are washed in a room adjoining the mosque, while women are taken to special buildings provided for this purpose. The body-washer places the nude body on a large wooden table and pours water over it in quantities. Then with a gauntlet of coarse wool which he puts on his hands, he scrubs the corpse all over with soap and water, sousing it over and over again with copious douches of water. After this procedure he dries the body well, and dresses it up in its new white cotton shroud, or perhaps assists members of the family to do this. For preference the washing is done after dark, but this is not obligatory.

Among the Badawin when a woman's husband dies, the widow keeps herself shut up in her tent, and wears a green undergarment. She goes out only when all strange men are out of sight; she must cover her hands and feet with a sort of glove and sock when she moves with her family; this is known as *hádad* or *hádim* (*tahádad* or *tahádim*—she is mourning).

OTHER INTERESTING POINTS CONNECTED WITH A BADAWIN DEATH

(*a*) In the desert water is usually dropped into the mouth of a person about to die.

(*b*) The eyes of the dead person are not closed as in the West.

(*c*) The Badawin greatly dislikes having to bury his own dead. If he can, he will get some non-Badawin, a settled Arab for instance, if one is